



Bits of Gold



MONTANA TALKING BOOK LIBRARY
1515 E. 6th Ave., Helena, MT 59620 - 406-444-2064 - 800-332-3400
Summer 1997

Annual Volunteer Recognition

"Montana Out West" was the theme of the volunteer recognition dinner held at the Kleffner Ranch Pavilion on June 17th. The keynote speaker, Bozeman author Dr. Gerald Sullivan, entertained the guests with a presentation on "Successful Fiction Writing". Lt. Governor Judy Martz offered inspiring remarks on the importance of volunteer service and presented letters of appreciation from Governor Marc Racicot. Each volunteer also received a hand-decorated horse-shoe from the staff. The following awards were given:

Lifetime Achievement Award- presented posthumously to R. Budd Gould for outstanding achievement, dedication and commitment to serving all Montana citizens and improving life for disabled people

Special Appreciation Award - Tom Basinger-for consistently maintaining the highest quality standards, dedication and dependability in providing Montana citizens with the best playback equipment, motivation of others and a willingness to assist where needed

Narrator of the year - Ray Venzke

Monitor of the year - Phyllis Herbert

Reviewer of the year - Sheila Bieber

Telephone Pioneers - Herb Blunn and Louie Schmitt

Five years of service - Frank Graham, Mary Zednick and Harvey Steen

Ten years of service - Bette Mayer

Fifteen years of service - Donna Anders and Jean Schellenberger

The volunteers continually inspire the respect of staff for their work ethics, dependability and commitment.

New Products*

Large Print Cookbook: The Montana Association for the Blind (MAB) has put together a large print cookbook of assorted recipes contributed by members of the MAB. The price of the cook book is \$10.00. Contact: Betty Lou Berg, P.O. Box 352 Butte, MT 59703, 1-406-723-3383.

Talking Book Marker: The Talking Book Marker was created by Jim Daily, a patron of the Talking Book Library. This simple switch plugs into your cassette player. You hold the switch down while listening to the tape and when you relax your grip (e.g. if you doze off) the switch lets up and the talking book stops, marking your place and eliminating the need to rewind. The price is \$24.95. Contact: Jim Daily, 835 Emma Street; Butte, MT 59701, (406)782-2202.

**Mention of a product or service in this newsletter does not constitute endorsement by this library.*

Staff Changes Abound

There have been many staff changes in the last six months. Darla Carlson, Readers' Advisor, retired after 8 years with the library. She was also in charge of the magazines, and mailing out the machines and the newsletter. Darla was devoted to her patrons, but decided to stay home with her recently retired husband and help with their new woodworking business. Lee Madison, Circulation Manager, moved into Darla's old position. Carolyn Meier, Readers' Advisor, decided she would like to try the job of Circulation Manager and moved into that position. Carolyn is responsible for general maintenance of the collection and making sure out-going books are sent out on time, and incoming books get sorted, inspected and shelved. Carolyn's old position was filled by Roberta Gebhardt. Before coming to Helena, Roberta lived in Butte where she worked at the Montana Tech Library. Here is a list of the present staff and their job titles:

Sandra Jarvie - Regional Librarian

Christie Briggs - Coordinator of Volunteer Services

Roberta Gebhardt - Readers' Advisor (last names beginning A-G)

Alberta Blanton - Readers' Advisor (H-O)

Lee Madison - Readers' Advisor (P-Z)

Carolyn Meier - Circulation Manager.

Maxed out requests

Have you been wondering why those books you requested last month haven't arrived? It may be because you have too many requests. Our computer system will hold up to 250 requests for

each patron. Books are selected from the list by the request date, selecting the oldest first. If your request file is full, the Readers' Advisor **can not** enter anymore requests until the file size decreases. Some patrons have requests that haven't been entered for 10 years because the file is full. Your Readers' Advisor would like to know if excess requests received before 1995 can be cleared; keeping only the newer requests. Please contact your Readers' Advisor if you wish to discuss your request file.

Montana Magazine of Western History

"Montana, the Magazine of Western History" is recorded and distributed by the TBL in Helena. In the past the magazine was sent to you in a plastic cassette box. They are now being mailed in a reusable padded envelope. When you finish the magazine, it would be appreciated if you would reverse the mailing card, tape or staple the envelope shut and return it to the library. This new distribution method will help you receive your magazines in a more timely fashion.

Bestsellers Catalog

The National Library Service has produced a catalog that contains bestsellers from 1984-1994. The books were among the twenty top-selling books for each year. Louis L'Amour, Danielle Steel, Mary Higgins Clark, Nelson DeMille, and Dick Francis are a few of the authors included in this catalog. For a catalog contact TBL at 1-800-332-3400.

Some Montana books you may have missed

Following is a list of books, about Montana or by Montana authors, recorded by volunteers in the Montana Talking Book recording program.

- MCB 449 *BEYOND FAIR CHASE* By Jim Posewitz-Narrated by Jean Smith. Short story on the ethics and traditions of hunting. Non-fiction. All ages.
- MCB 441 *THE WINDOW* By Jeanette Ingold-Narrated by JoAnn Mayala Fifteen year old Mandy's mother dies in a terrible accident, leaving Mandy blind to forge ahead with unfamiliar relatives and a future hauntingly guided by the past. Juvenile fiction.
- MCB 434 *COLOR ME RED* By Kalli Deschamps-Narrated by Vic Richer. A mystery set in a small Montana town about a young school teacher who finds herself the brunt of a politically prejudiced school board. Adult Fiction. (Strong language, explicit descriptions of sex).
- MCB 430 *YELLOWSTONE WOLVES* By Gary Ferguson-Narrated by Winston Swift. The story of the wolves' first year after they were re-introduced to Yellowstone National Park in 1995. Non-fiction. All ages.
- MCB 429 *PERILOUS PASSAGE* By Edwin R. Purple-Narrated by Ray Venzke. Diary of 1862 reveals a very interesting first-hand account of trials & tribulations of a merchant following the Gold Rush into Montana, during the Vigilante and Bannack times with little-known anecdotes of well-known figures. Adult Non-fiction. Western. Biography.
- MCB 427 *MONTANA BLUNDERBUS* By Mary Lee Wilson-Narrated by Colleen Mockler. Humorous personal and political motor-home adventures of Montana's backroads by the author and her co-driver, including descriptive prose and witty dialogue. Adult Non-fiction travel journal.

- MCB 425 *ROOM TO ROAM, More Tales of a Montana Veterinarian*-Narrated by Lea Blunn. Sequel to Rib Gustafson's *Under The Chinook Arch*, features more pithy and humorous tales from the life of a veterinarian whose practice encompasses much of Montana's Two Medicine country. Non-fiction. All ages. Biography.
- MCB 423 *OUTLAW TALES OF MONTANA* By Gary A. Wilson-Narrated by Mike Weeks. Stories of some of the most fascinating and least known badmen to roam Montana's ranges: "Long" Henry Thompson, the "terror of eastern Montana"; Con Murphy, the "Jesse James" of Montana; "Dutch" Henry Leuch; George "Big Nose" Parrott, and new insights into the life of Harvey "Kid Curry" Logan. Non-fiction. Western.
- MCB 421 *SPARROW HAWK RED* By Ben Mikaelson-Narrated by Brett Byers. Thirteen year old Ricky, the Mexican-American son of a former Drug Enforcement Agent, tries to avenge his mother's murder by crossing over into Mexico to steal a high-tech radar plane from drug smugglers. Juvenile fiction.
- MCB 418 *NORTHERN FIRES* By Sally Garrett-Narrated by Joan Bishop. A young widow moves to Dillon, Montana where she meets, falls in love with and marries a rancher; and together they overcome trials and tribulations of family, friends and fate. Adult fiction. (Explicit descriptions of sex)
- MCB 417 *IF A LION COULD TALK* By Mildred Walker-Narrated by Dorothy Harper. Harriet Ryegate, the proper daughter of Massachusetts Puritans, and her husband Baptist minister Marcus Ryegate, seek to convert the Blackfoot Indians to Christianity beyond the upper Missouri, in this book about the tragic lack of communication in the years before the Civil War. Adult fiction.
- MCB 402 *WHISPER OF THE WOLF, Sons of the Plains, Vol. 3* By Terry C. Johnston - Narrated by Richard Smith. The story of Custer's Cheyenne son, Stone Eagle, and his fight to survive in a savage land. Adult & Young Adult historical-fiction novel. Western. Trilogy. (Explicit descriptions of violence)

New Computer Software

The 1997 Montana Legislature appropriated money for new circulation software at TBL. This new software should be in place in about 6 months. Thanks to all who called their legislators encouraging support of this appropriation. The new software will result in less computer failures, increased efficiency for the staff

and better service to our patrons.

Montana Drivers Manual

Large print and cassette versions of the Montana Driver's Manual are now available from the Talking Book Library. The large print version is presented in a graphic, easy-to-read format. Contact TBL if interested.

Remembering Budd

R. Budd Gould, long time patron and friend of the Talking Book Library passed away on June 2, 1997. Budd was a wonderful example of the ability of people with disabilities. He served as a state legislator for seven sessions. During this time he was instrumental in securing funding for TBL's prison recording program and the volunteer coordinator's position. Budd's final act of love for the library was the active part he took in lobbying the 1997 Legislature for desperately needed circulation software.

Although house-bound and in declining health, Budd contacted key legislators and rallied their support. Budd will not only be missed for his active advocacy and ever present support, but for his positive can-do attitude and genuine love and gratitude for the library and staff. Memorials may be made to: Montana Talking Book Library, 515 E. 6th Ave., Helena MT 59620, or Montana Chapter of the Diabetes Assn., P.O. Box 2088, Great Falls MT 59403.

Gifts

The Montana Talking Book Library uses donations [which are tax deductible] to purchase equipment and materials not otherwise available. A thank-you letter is sent to the donor. For a memorial, notification is also sent to the family. The amount is confidential. Please include the name of the person for whom the tribute is made, and the name and address of the people to be notified of the gift.

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FOR THE BLIND

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